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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/008,210	11/08/2001	Masaaki Iwasaki	21334-1089	2163

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EXAMINER

VU, HIEN D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 10/01/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/008,210

Applicant(s)

IWASAKI, MASAOKI

Examiner

Hien D. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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1. Claims 2-9, 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 5, line 6, "the plate" lacks an antecedent basis.

2. Claims 17-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 17, 18 and 19, the features "a length that enables the contact to flex to allow the housing to move along a surface of the circuit board" were not originally disclosed in the specification and therefore considering to be new matter and just what is referred to is unclear.

3. Without the newly presented features in claims 17-19, claims 5-25 are rejected as follows:

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over French (963) in view of McHugh et al and Yang et al.

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Insofar as the claims can be understood, French (963), Figs. 1-7 show an insulative housing 42, contacts (not shown) in the housing, a board 47, a flat plate metal attachment member 41, a mounting portion 30, arm 42, and legs 45. French does not show the board being a circuit board, the mounting portion having bars and the legs being off set relative to each other in a direction of thickness of the plate. McHugh, Fig. 1 shows a mounting portion 12 mounted on a circuit board 99 and having barbs (142, 125). Also, Yang, Fig. 3 shows an attachment member 60 having legs being off set to each other in direction of thickness of the plate member. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of French by providing the mounting portion with barbs and replacing the board with a circuit board, also by forming the legs to be off set to each other, as taught by McHugh and Yang, in order to secure the attachment member in the housing so that the housing could be mounted on the circuit board and to allow easier connection between the attachment member and the circuit board.

As to claims 8, 15, to have attachment portion to be soldered to the circuit board would have been obvious of modification since such change is old and well known in the art.

As to claims 9 and 16, Fig. 1 of French shows barbs 46 on the attachment portion.

As to claims 17 and 18, French does not clearly show each of the contacts having a contact portion and a bent portion. Davis, Fig. 3 shows each of contacts 50, 51 having a bent portion (503, 513) and a contact portion (501, 511). It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of French by forming the contacts with a contact portion and a bent portion, as taught by Yang, in order to achieve better connection.

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6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

7. (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hunt et al.

Insofar as the claims can be understood, Hunt, Figs. 4 and 5 show an insulating housing 4, a plurality of contacts 7 with mating contacts and contact sections 8.

As to claim 20, bent portion of the contact section is arranged at an intermediate point.

As to claim 21, a first set of contact having bent portion larger than the second set contact as shown in Fig. 5.

9. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hunt et al in view of French.

Hunt, Fig. 5 shows an attachment member 13 but does not show the attachment member having mounting portion with arms extending toward the circuit board and an attachment portion extending between arms including legs space from the arms. French, Fig. 1 shows an attachment member 30 with the features as described above. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of Hunt by replacing the attachment of Hunt with the attachment of French, as taught by French, in order to allow better connection to the circuit board.

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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11. Davis, Garay, Tan et al, Gladd et al and Azuma et al are cited for disclosure of electrical connectors with attachment means.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Hien Vu at telephone number (703) 308-2009.

Vu/ek

09/17/03



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